



District 2 Update

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Convention Center On Time and On Budget: Expansion Completed



The expansion of the San Diego Convention Center has been completed, doubling the capacity to a 1.7 million-square-foot facility. The expansion adds 525,000 square feet of contiguous exhibit space, two 40,000 square foot ballrooms, 72 meeting rooms and a state-of-the-art 25,000 square foot kitchen.

District 2 has a new showplace downtown for the thousands of visitors who consider themselves lucky to visit our great city. The San Diego Convention Center expansion, which broke ground in August 1998, has reached completion on budget and on schedule. Through the construction effort of Turner Construction, Centex Golden, Tucker, Sadler Noble Castro and HNTB Architects. The logistics included lowering Harbor Drive, moving the entrance to the parking garage, and enclosing the Sail Pavilion to create an additional 90,000 square feet of space.

Councilmember Wear has been a strong supporter of the expanded

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Focus in October : Midway and NTC

On The Docket

The City Council meeting of Tuesday, Sept. 11 was canceled and a number of items have been re-scheduled. Here is a partial list of the status of these items:

#S-500

Reconsideration of Chevron Station - 9/18 docket

#330

Rancho Encantada PFFP/FBA - 10/2 due to renoting requirements

#331

View Corridor Set-back along Broadway - renoting required.... new date not set

#332

North Embarcadero Visionary Plan - 9/18 docket - will be added as supplemental item

A message from Councilmember Byron Wear regarding the Sept. 11 terrorism

Words cannot do justice for the recent unthinkable chain of events. I am shocked and saddened by the despicable actions perpetrated against our nation. We must not live in fear of terrorism, however, these incidents should serve as an important reminder that we as American citizens, and as San Diegans, must always remain vigilant and alert to signs of domestic terrorism.

I have received assurances that our local military forces are on alert and ready to defend our region against any possible terrorist attacks. I am confident that our City public safety forces are fully prepared to react and respond to any incident that may arise. We have activated the City's Emergency Operations Center to act as a coordinated, efficient command center and to ensure our preparedness. All public safety personnel are on heightened alert.

In the days to come, we must not allow outrage to give way to unbri-dled hostility and turmoil. San Diego has always been a cohesive and responsive group in times of tragedy. Now is the time for mourning, but we cannot let terrorism control our lives. As San Diegans, we must maintain a healthy dialogue and open lines of communication in the coming days.

On behalf of the Council District Two office, our hearts and prayers go out to the victims of these tragedies, as well as their families.

To donate blood or money towards the relief efforts, please contact: 800-448-3543



Photo taken by Paul Grimes of the District 2 staff, on the evening of August 30 from the pedestrian walkway of the Brooklyn Bridge.

“ Today, we feel what Franklin Roosevelt called "the warm courage of national unity." This is a unity of every faith and every background. This has joined together political parties and both houses of Congress. It is evident in services of prayer and candlelight vigils and American flags, which are displayed in pride and waved in defiance. Our unity is a kinship of grief and a steadfast resolve to prevail against our enemies. And this unity against terror is now extending across the world. America is a nation full of good fortune, with so much to be grateful for, but we are not spared from suffering. In every generation, the world has produced enemies of human freedom. They have attacked America because we are freedom's home and defender, and the commitment of our fathers is now the calling of our time. ”

— President George W. Bush, September 14, 2001

National Day of Prayer and Remembrance: San Diego Concourse
September 14, 2001



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*Charting a Course for the
Future*

Convention Center, continued

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facility, understanding that the economic benefit would be felt throughout the city. The Convention Center Corporation estimates that there will be a \$4.5 billion economic impact, coming from hotel rooms, restaurants, transportation, and auxiliary services to the businesses in the area.

Between the original building and the expansion facility, a wonderful public space has been added as well. The Grand Staircase from Harbor Drive leads to a platform with a spectacular new view of San Diego Bay. Overhead “Luminous Arc” by world-renowned artist James Carpenter, lights the path. Stairs descend to Embarcadero Park on the waterfront.

Another special part of the new Convention Center is “Coming Together, a piece by acclaimed artist Niki de Saint Phalle. The impressive and playful piece stands at the Harbor Drive and Eighth Avenue plaza.

Although the official Grand Opening ceremonies scheduled for Sept. 14 were cancelled, the public will have the opportunity to visit the San Diego Convention Center at a special Open House event during the upcoming holidays.

Right, the newly configured Center Front Drive will allow hundreds of trucks access for Convention set-up. Below, part of the new 25,000 square foot kitchen.



Below, “Coming Together” by Niki de Saint Phalle.

